DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 328 309 JC 910 098

AUTHOR Lucas, John A.; Meltesen, Cal
TITLE Study of Students Who Withdrew from Courses, Summer 1988-Spring 1990. Volume XIX, No. 5.
INSTITUTION William Rainey Harper Coll., Palatine, Ill. Office of Planning and Research.
PUB DATE 15 Jan 91
NOTE 36p.; For previous studies of student withdrawals, see JC 910 085 and ED 295 718.
PUB TYPE Reports - Research/Technical (143) -- Tests/Evaluation Instruments (160) -- Statistical Data (110)

EDRS PRICE MF01/PC02 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS *Academic Persistence; Community Colleges; Comparative Analysis; Courses; Dropout Research; *Dropouts; *Enrollment Influences; Participant Satisfaction; Questionnaires; Student Attitudes; Student Characteristics; Trend Analysis; Two Year Colleges; *Two Year College Students; *Withdrawal (Education)
IDENTIFIERS William Rainey Harper College IL

ABSTRACT

A study was conducted at William Rainey Harper College (WRHC) to develop a profile of students who withdrew from courses between 1988 and 1990 and to compare this profile with the results of a 1986-88 withdrawal study. For the 2-year period studied, each degree credit student who officially withdrew from a course was asked to complete a survey form, indicating withdrawal status, whether a counselor had been consulted, principal reason for withdrawal, method of registration, and general comments. Between 1988 and 1990, 13.8% of the 162,000 course enrollments resulted in official withdrawals, representing a 0.3% increase in withdrawals over the 1988 cohort. An analysis of these withdrawals indicated the following: (1) one out of every five course withdrawals resulted in complete withdrawal from WRHC, although nearly 75% of the students who withdrew planned to return to WRHC one day; (2) nearly 30% of those withdrawing gave reasons completely beyond WRHC's control, and only 8% indicated WRHC as the primary cause for withdrawal; (3) the major reasons cited for withdrawals included personal, family, or health problems, too far behind/poor grades, inconvenient meeting times, or job pressures; (4) there continued to be a lower percentage of withdrawals during the summer semester than during the spring and fall semesters (10% versus 14%); (5) during the previous 2 years, 44% of the students withdrawing had never consulted a counselor; and (6) overall, younger students continued to have a higher withdrawal rate (17.9%) than students over the age of 25 (8.9%). Sample narrative responses and the survey instrument are included. (JMC)

****
* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *
****

Office of Planning and Research

William Rainey Harper College

Study of Students Who Withdrew From Courses, Summer 1988 — Spring 1990

Volume XIX, No. 5
January 15, 1991

John A. Lucas, Director
Office of Planning and Research

Cal Meltesen, Research Analyst
Office of Planning and Research

ED328309

"PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE THIS MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

J. A. Lucas

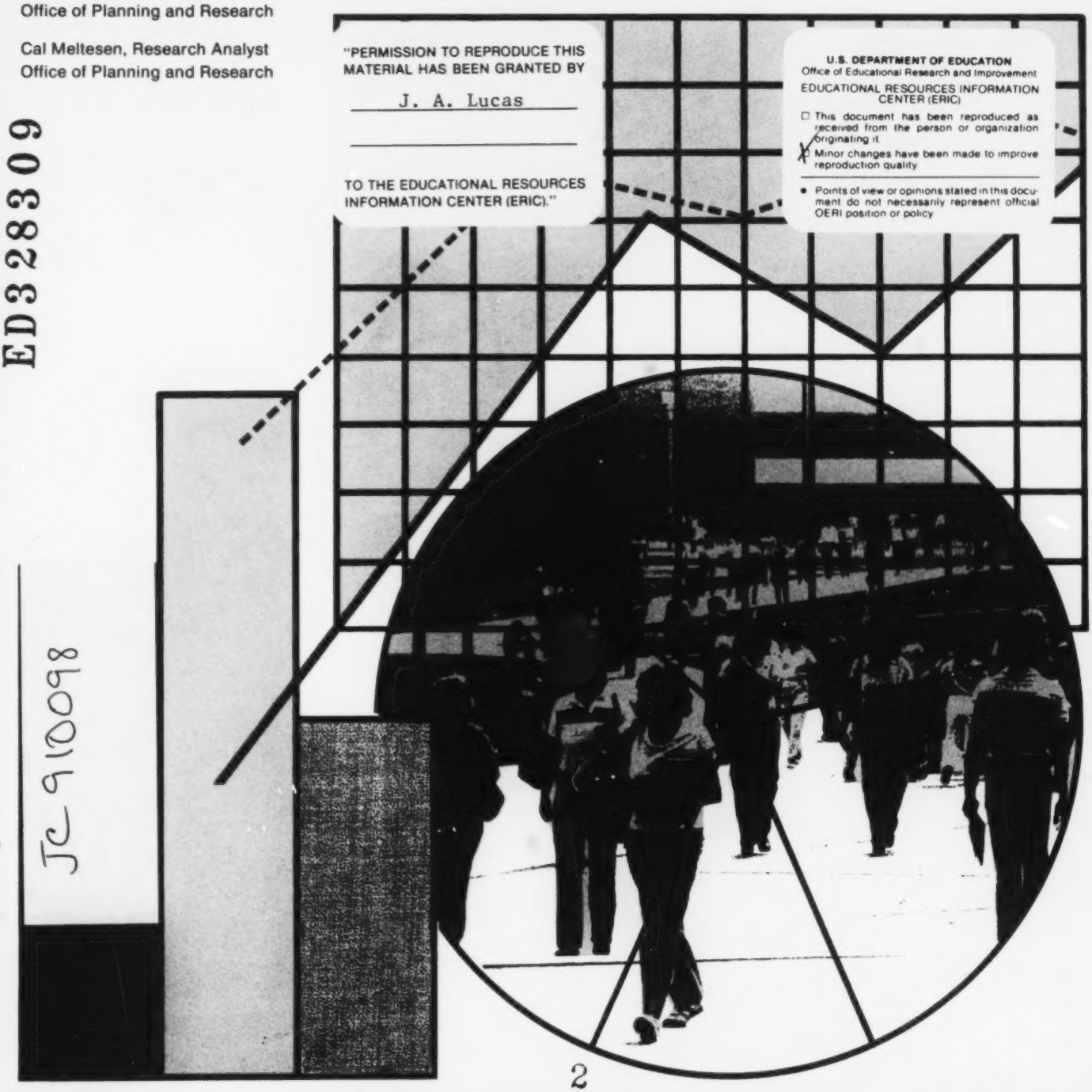
TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)."

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Educational Research and Improvement
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

☐ This document has been reproduced as received from the person or organization originating it.

☒ Minor changes have been made to improve reproduction quality.

• Points of view or opinions stated in this document do not necessarily represent official OERI position or policy.



JC 910098

ABSTRACT

THE PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT IS TO SUMMARIZE DATA CONTAINED IN THE SURVEY GIVEN TO EACH STUDENT WHO WITHDREW FROM A COURSE DURING THE PERIOD FROM SUMMER SEMESTER 1988 THROUGH SPRING SEMESTER 1990. IT IS ESTIMATED THAT ABOUT THREE OUT OF EVERY FOUR STUDENTS WHO WITHDRAW COMPLETE SUCH A SURVEY FORM. AFTER AN ANALYSIS AND CROSS COMPARISON OF DATA BOTH INTERNALLY AND WITH OTHER DATA ON STUDENT CHARACTERISTICS, THE FOLLOWING CONCLUSIONS EMERGED.

OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS 13.8 PERCENT OF THE COURSE ENROLLEES OFFICIALLY WITHDREW FROM THEIR COURSES. ONE-FIFTH OF THE WITHDRAWALS RESULT IN A COMPLETE WITHDRAWAL FROM HARPER. HOWEVER, THREE-QUARTERS OF THE STUDENTS WHO COMPLETELY WITHDRAW PLAN TO RETURN TO HARPER. ALMOST ONE-THIRD OF THOSE WITHDRAWING GIVE REASONS COMPLETELY BEYOND HARPER'S CONTROL AND ONLY ONE OUT OF 13 INDICATES HARPER AS THE PRIMARY CAUSE FOR WITHDRAWAL. THESE RESULTS HAVE REMAINED FAIRLY CONSTANT DURING THE 1980'S.

PERSONAL, FAMILY OR ILLNESS IS THE NUMBER ONE REASON PROVIDED FOR WITHDRAWALS AND POOR GRADES OR FALLING BEHIND IS SECOND. AGAIN, THERE CONTINUES TO BE A DECREASE IN WITHDRAWALS DUE TO STUDENTS BEING INADEQUATELY PREPARED FOR THE COURSE.

SUMMER SEMESTER STUDENTS ARE LESS LIKELY TO WITHDRAW AND WITHDRAW FOR DIFFERENT REASONS WHEN COMPARED TO STUDENTS IN THE FALL AND SPRING SEMESTERS. THE WITHDRAWAL RATE OF TELEPHONE REGISTRANTS CONTINUES TO BE LESS THAN THE WITHDRAWAL RATE OF STUDENTS REGISTERING IN PERSON. YOUNGER STUDENTS ARE MORE LIKELY TO WITHDRAW THAN OLDER STUDENTS.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

		Page
I.	Purpose	1
II.	Population Surveyed	1
III.	Methodology	1
IV.	Discussion of Results	1-2
V.	Conclusions	2
VI.	Detailed Results	
	A. Summary of completion rates/frequency of withdrawing 1986-1988	3
	B. Comparison - fall and spring versus summer	4
	C. Comparison - summer vs fall and spring	5
	D. Student withdrawal information - annual trends	5
	E. Classification of reasons for withdrawal - annual trends	6
	F. Reasons for withdrawal	6
	G. Type of withdrawal and counselor consultation	6
	H. Analysis of students who withdrew by mode of registration	7
	I. Analysis of students who withdrew - by age group	7
	J. Analysis of students who withdrew - by male/female	8
	K. Student withdrawal information -- summer	8-9
	L. Student withdrawal information -- fall	10
	M. Student withdrawal information -- spring	11
	N. Type of withdrawal -- summer 1986	12-13
	O. Information by age of student -- summer 1986	13-14
	P. Type of withdrawal -- fall 1986	15-16
	Q. Information by age of student -- fall 1986	16
	R. Type of withdrawal -- spring 1987	17-18
	S. Information by age of student -- spring 1987	18-19
	T. Type of withdrawal -- summer 1987	19-20
	U. Information by age of student -- summer 1987	20-21
	V. Type of withdrawal -- fall 1987	21-22
	W. Information by age of student -- fall 1987	22-23
	X. Type of withdrawal -- spring 1988	23-24
	Y. Information by age of student -- spring 1988	24-25
	Z. Comments about instructors/instruction	26-29
VII.	Appendix	
	- Survey instrument	

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to summarize data contained in the survey given to each student who withdrew from a course during the period from summer semester 1988 through spring semester 1990. The objective of the report is to provide general institutional background profiling students who withdraw from courses at Harper and to compare this data to the results of the 1986-1988 withdrawal study.

Population Surveyed

Students are asked to complete a survey form at the time they officially withdraw from a course. During the last two years, surveys have been completed for approximately 71 percent of the course withdrawals. However, one out of every three students drop more than one course and usually only one withdrawal form is filled out regardless of the number of courses a student drops. Thus, the unduplicated headcount of withdrawing students who completed surveys is much higher than appears. When compared to the previous study, the number of surveys completed per course withdrawals increased by 18 percent.

Methodology

For the period from summer semester 1988 through spring 1990, each degree credit student who has officially withdrawn from a course has been asked to complete a survey form (shown in the appendix). This form was designed by the Office of Planning and Research and is distributed by the Office of the Registrar. The data has been analyzed to show many comparisons to data within the survey and to certain other student characteristics data.

Discussion of Results

The results found in this study are practically a clone of our last study. During the two-year period from the summer 1988 through spring 1990, 13.8 percent of the 162,000 course enrollments resulted in official withdrawals. This is a slight increase (.3%) in course withdrawals when compared to the previous study completed in spring 1988. As in past studies, one out of every five course withdrawals results in a complete withdrawal from Harper. However, almost three-quarters of the students who completely withdraw plan to return to Harper some day.

Of those withdrawing, nearly 30 percent withdraw for reasons completely beyond Harper's control and only eight percent indicate Harper as the primary cause for withdrawing. Those who withdraw for reasons beyond Harper's control are more likely to withdraw from Harper completely. These statistics have remained fairly constant with prior studies.

The major reasons cited for withdrawals include personal, family or illness problems, too far behind/poor grades, times courses met proved to be too inconvenient, or job pressures. These reasons continue to be some of the most frequently cited reasons for withdrawals when compared to the previous study. The number one cited reason for withdrawals is personal, family, or illness problems followed closely by withdrawals resulting from poor grades or falling too far behind. The latter reason was the number one cited cause in the 1988 study.

The percent of withdrawals during the summer semester continues to be less than the percent of withdrawals in the spring and fall semesters (10% versus 14%). Student's who withdraw during the summer are more likely to withdraw completely and to register by telephone. Summer withdrawing students are less likely to ever have seen a counselor.

Discussion of Results (continued)

Reasons for withdrawal also differ when comparing the summer semester to the spring and fall semester. Summer enrollees continue to be less likely to withdraw because of poor grades or falling behind, an ineffective instructor, too heavy of a course load or dislike for the course. This data regarding summer semester withdrawals remains consistent to results reported in prior studies. Other than personal, family or illness problems, the most prevalent reason for withdrawal during the sunmmer is the times courses met proved to be too inconvenient.

The percent of withdrawals of those who register by telephone continues to be less than the percent of withdrawals by students registering in person. However, the percentage difference between those withdrawing who register by telephone and those withdrawing who register in person is continuing to decrease. Those who register by telephone are more likely to withdraw completely from Harper.

During the past two years, 44 percent of the students withdrawing say they have never consulted a counselor - similar to results of the previous study. Those who withdraw completely from Harper are less likely to consult a counselor in the semester of withdrawal.

Overall, younger students continue to have a higher withdrawal rate when compared to students 25 years of age or older (17.9% as compared to 8.9%). However, as in the previous studies during the summer semesters the withdrawal rate did not differ between age groups. Students 25 years of age or older are more likely to withdraw for reason's completely beyond Harper's control than most students under 25 years of age. The reasons for withdrawal most frequently cited by older students are personal, family, or illness problems and job pressures or a new job. Older students are least likely to withdraw because of poor grades or falling behind, too heavy of a course load, or dislike for the course or the instructor. Withdrawing students 25 years of age or older are more likely to have registered by telephone and withdraw completely from Harper.

Males had a slightly higher withdrawal rate than females (15.2% versus 12.7%). Younger males were more likely to withdraw than older males, while older females were more likely to withdraw than younger females.

Conclusions

Over the past two years 13.8 percent of the course enrollees officially withdrew from their courses. One-fifth of the withdrawals result in a complete withdrawal from Harper. However, three-quarters of the students who completely withdraw plan to return to Harper. Almost one-third of those withdrawing give reasons completely beyond Harper's control and only one out of 13 indicates Harper as the primary cause for withdrawal. These results have remained fairly constant since the previous studies.

Withdrawals due to poor grades or falling behind in the course increased almost 2 percent since the previous study to become the second most cited reason for withdrawal. Personal, family or illness became the number one cause for withdrawal. Interestingly, there continues to be a decrease in withdrawals due to students being inadequately prepared for the course.

Summer semester students are less likely to withdraw and withdraw for different reasons when compared to students in the fall and spring semesters. The withdrawal rate of telephone registrants continues to be less than the withdrawal rate of students registering in person. Younger students are more likely to withdraw than older students.

Summary of Withdrawal Survey Completion Rates

and

Summary of Frequency of Withdrawing Over the Last Two Years

	Survey N	Total W	Percentage Surveys Per Course Withdrawal	Total Grades	Percentage W's Total Grades
Summer 1988	985	942	104.6	10,022	9.4
Summer 1989	619	998	62.0	10,065	9.9
Sub-Total Summer	1,604	1,940	82.7	20,087	9.7
Fall 1988	4,075	5,011	81.3	36,068	13.9
Fall 1989	4,090	5,470	74.8	37,474	14.6
Sub-Total Fall	8,165	10,481	77.9	73,542	14.3
Spring 1989	3,243	4,711	68.8	33,547	14.0
Spring 1990	2,854	5,234	54.5	34,825	15.0
Sub-Total	6,097	9,945	61.3	68,372	14.5
1988-1989	8,303	10,664	78.0	79,637	13.3
1989-1990	7,563	11,702	64.6	82,364	14.2
GRAND TOTAL	15,866	22,366	70.9	162,001	13.8

STUDENT WITHDRAWAL COMPARISONS FALL AND SPRING VERSUS SUMMER
FOR A NUMBER OF SELECTED FACTORS 1988-1990

	Fall and Spring		Summer	
	Completely Withdrew from Harper	Did not Completely Withdraw from Harper	Completely Withdrew from Harper	Did not Completely Withdraw from Harper
Under 25 years of age	54.3	78.2	72.8	71.2
Consulted a counselor in the semester of withdrawal	17.0	29.5	9.1	15.2
Registered by telephone	33.6	24.2	44.9	31.1
Withdrew for reasons completely beyond Harper's control	57.1	21.7	38.1	30.3

	Withdrawals Under 25 Years Old	Withdrawals 25 Years or Older	Withdrawals Under 25 Years Old	Withdrawals 25 Years or Older
Male	52.6	39.8	49.9	39.7
Consulted a counselor in the semester of withdrawal	30.2	18.8	12.8	14.5
Registered by telephone	20.3	41.7	35.5	35.3
Withdrew for reasons completely beyond Harper's control	21.4	45.4	27.5	43.9

FOR A NUMBER OF SELECTED FACTORS 1988-1990

	Fall and Spring		Summer	
Base Factor	Withdrawals Under 25 Years Old	Withdrawals 25 Years or Older	Withdrawals Under 25 Years Old	Withdrawals 25 Years or Older
Personal, family or illness problems	10.7	23.4	11.6	25.2
Job pressures or offer of new job	9.0	19.7	13.6	17.1
Too far behind or poor grades	17.8	4.7	11.3	6.7
Was carrying too heavy of a course load	11.1	9.1	9.0	8.5
Instructor was ineffective	8.4	5.7	5.0	4.8
Disliked course	6.5	2.2	4.6	.8
Inadequately prepared for course	5.6	5.0	5.1	5.1

COMPARISON

Summer Withdrawals versus Fall and Spring Withdrawals

Selected Factors - Two Years of Data

	Summer	Fall and Spring
Withdrew because of personal, family or illness problems	16.0	14.5
Withdrew because the times course met proved too inconvenient	15.5	11.9
Withdrew because they were too far behind or poor grades	9.9	14.3
Withdrew because instructor was ineffective	4.8	7.6
Percent of course withdrawals who completely withdraw from Harper	29.7	17.8
Percent withdrawals who have never seen a counselor	53.3	42.6
Percent of withdrawals who registered by telephone	35.2	25.9
Number of withdrawal surveys	1,604	14,262

Student Withdrawal Information -- Annual Trends

Reason for Withdrawal	1982-1986	1986 1988	1988-1989	1989-1990	1988-1990
Personal, family, or illness problems	14.7	14.4	14.5	14.8	14.6
Times courses met proved to be too inconvenient	11.9	10.5	12.5	11.9	12.2
Course objectives did not relate to student needs	9.8	8.4	9.3	8.9	9.1
Load became too heavy	11.5	9.7	10.7	9.8	10.3
Job pressures or was offered new job	12.7	12.0	11.2	12.9	12.0
Was inadequately prepared for course	6.9	5.7	5.7	5.1	5.4
Instructor was ineffective	6.8	6.9	6.9	7.9	7.4
Moving out of area	1.3	1.6	1.1	1.2	1.1
Financial problems	1.5	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.3
Too far behind - poor grades	12.4	16.2	13.8	13.9	13.9
Transportation problems getting to Harper College	1.0	1.1	.7	.9	.8
Accepted by another college	.7	.5	.8	.7	.7
Course demanded too much	3.5	3.8	4.2	4.1	4.2
Course canceled	.2	.2	.2	.2	.2
Location was too inconvenient	.3	.2	.3	.2	.3
Disliked course	4.1	5.0	5.2	5.3	5.2
Other	.7	2.6	1.6	.7	1.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of Responses	21,977	10,938	8,172	7,445	15,617

Student Withdrawal Information -- Annual Trends
Classification of Reasons for Withdrawal

Classification	1982-1986	1986-1987	1987-1988	1988-1989	1989-1990
Reasons completely beyond Harper's control	29.7	29.3	29.3	27.6	29.6
Reasons in which Harper has some control	63.0	62.9	63.6	65.3	62.3
Reasons which indicate Harper was the primary cause	7.3	7.8	7.1	7.1	8.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Reasons Completely Beyond Harper's Control	Reasons About Which Harper Might Have Some Control	Reasons Which Indicate Harper was The Primary Cause
Personal, family or illness problems	Course load became too heavy	Instructor was ineffective
Job pressures or was offered new job	Course objectives did not relate to student needs	Text book not available
Moving out of area	Times course met proved to be too inconvenient	Registration Error
Accepted by another college	Too far behind/poor grades	Course canceled
Entered military	Financial problems	Class size too large
Was able to test out of course	Transportation problems getting to Harper	Telecourse not broadcast
	Course demanded too much	
	Disliked course	
	Location proved to be too inconvenient	
	Was inadequately prepared for course	

Type of Withdrawal and Counselor Consultation

Type of Withdrawal	1982-1986	1986-1987	1987-1988	1988-1989	1989-1990
Withdrew from one course	69.0	67.5	70.3	70.0	69.6
Withdrew from more than one course but still at Harper	11.3	11.7	11.6	11.3	11.3
Completely withdrew from Harper but plan to return	13.7	14.4	13.2	12.7	13.9
Completely withdrew from Harper - not sure about future	2.4	2.3	1.9	2.6	1.9
Completely withdrew from Harper - have no plans to return	2.6	4.1	3.0	3.5	3.3
Counselor Consultation					
Consulted a counselor the semester of withdrawal	26.7	26.2	26.9	25.9	25.9
Consulted a counselor in prior semesters	27.4	28.5	30.6	30.6	30.2
Never consulted a counselor	45.9	45.4	42.3	43.5	43.9
Number of Responses	22,181	4,906	5,979	8,029	7,336

Analysis of Students Who Withdrew by Mode of Registration

Terms and Year	Course Enrollments	Registered By Telephone	Registered in Person	W	Registered by Telephone W	Registered in Person W	Percent Registered by Telephone who withdrew	Percent Registered in person who withdrew
Summer 1988	10,002	4,107	5,895	942	318	624	7.7	10.6
Fall 1988	36,068	14,644	21,424	5,011	1,323	3,688	9.0	17.2
Spring 1989	33,547	9,658	23,889	4,711	1,074	3,637	11.1	15.2
Sub-Total 88-89	79,637	28,409	51,208	10,664	2,715	7,949	9.6	15.5
Summer 1989	10,065	3,705	6,360	998	373	625	10.1	9.8
Fall 1989	37,474	12,336	25,078	5,470	1,468	3,982	12.0	15.9
Spring 1990	34,825	9,204	25,621	5,234	1,413	3,821	15.4	14.9
Sub-Total 89-90	82,364	25,305	57,059	11,702	3,274	8,428	12.9	14.8
Summer 88-89	20,067	7,812	12,255	1,940	691	1,249	8.8	10.2
Fall 88-89	73,542	27,040	46,502	10,481	2,811	7,670	10.4	16.5
Spring 89-90	68,372	18,862	49,510	9,945	2,487	7,458	13.2	15.1
GRAND TOTAL	162,001	53,714	108,267	22,366	5,989	16,377	11.1	15.1

Analysis of Students Who Withdrew - by Age Group

Term and Year	College Enrollments	Under 25 Course Enrollments	25 & Older Course Enrollments	W	Under 25 W	25 and Older W	Total % Who Withdrew	% Under 25 who Withdrew	Percent 25 & Older who Withdrew
Summer 1988	10,002	6,821	3,181	942	678	264	9.4	9.9	8.3
Fall 1988	36,068	20,151	15,917	5,011	3,693	1,318	13.9	18.3	8.3
Spring 1989	33,547	18,223	15,324	4,711	3,627	1,384	14.0	19.9	9.0
Sub-Total 88-89	79,637	45,195	34,422	10,664	7,998	2,966	13.4	17.7	8.6
Summer 1989	10,065	7,075	2,990	998	709	289	9.9	10.0	9.7
Fall 1989	37,474	20,626	16,848	5,470	3,927	1,543	14.6	19.0	9.2
Spring 1990	34,825	19,001	15,824	5,234	3,821	1,413	15.0	20.1	8.9
Sub-Total 89-90	82,364	46,702	35,662	11,702	8,457	3,245	14.2	18.1	9.1
Summer 88-89	20,087	13,896	6,171	1,940	1,387	553	9.7	10.0	9.0
Fall 88-89	73,542	40,777	32,765	10,481	7,620	2,861	14.3	18.7	8.7
Spring 89-90	68,372	37,224	31,148	9,945	7,448	2,797	14.5	20.0	9.0
GRAND TOTAL	162,001	91,897	70,084	22,366	16,455	6,211	13.8	17.9	8.9

Analysis of Students Who Withdraw - By Male and Female

Term and Year	Course Enrollments	Male Course Enrollments	Female Course Enrollments	W	Male W	Female W	Percent Males Who Withdraw	Percent Females Who Withdraw
Summer 1988	10,002	4,117	5,885	942	450	492	10.9	8.4
Fall 1988	36.068	17,947	18.121	5,011	2,400	2,611	13.4	14.4
Spring 1989	33,547	14,385	19,162	4,711	2,398	2,313	16.7	12.1
Sub-Total 88-89	79,637	36,449	43,168	10,664	5,248	5,416	14.4	12.5
Summer 1989	10,065	4,594	5,481	998	454	544	9.9	9.9
Fall 1989	37,474	15,735	21,739	5,470	2,647	2,823	16.8	13.0
Spring 1990	34,825	15,219	19,606	5,234	2,607	2,627	17.1	13.4
Sub-Total 89-90	82,364	35,538	46,826	11,702	5,708	5,994	16.1	12.8
Summer 88-89	20,067	8,731	11,366	1,040	940	1,036	10.4	9.1
Fall 88-89	73.542	33,682	39,860	10,481	5,047	5,434	15.0	13.6
Spring 89-90	68,372	29,604	38,768	9,945	5,005	4,940	16.9	12.7
GRAND TOTAL	162,001	71,987	89,994	22,366	10,956	11,410	15.2	12.7

Student Withdrawal Information -- Summer

Reason for Withdrawal	1986	1987	1988	1989
Personal, family or illness problems	16.9	20.7	15.2	17.4
Job pressures or was offered new job	17.5	12.1	14.9	13.9
Times course met proved inconvenient	16.6	15.5	16.8	13.4
Course load became too heavy	6.9	9.7	9.3	8.0
Was inadequately prepared for course	4.9	6.6	5.2	5.0
Course objectives did not relate to student's needs	10.0	10.2	7.3	5.8
Moving out of area	1.8	2.2	1.2	.5
Instructor was ineffective	3.8	2.4	4.2	5.8
Transferred to another college	.4	.8	.7	1.9
Financial problems	1.6	1.5	1.0	1.1
Disliked course	2.4	2.0	3.1	4.1
Transportation problems to Harper	1.6	.9	1.2	.9
Course demanded too much	5.4	5.1	8.4	6.5
Location was too inconvenient	.1	.1	.4	.5
Too far behind - poor grades	7.9	9.1	8.7	11.9
Other	2.2	1.1	2.2	2.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of Responses	560	364	960	607

Student Withdrawal Information -- Summer

Information	Total Percentage 1986	1987	1988	1989
Male	45.1	45.9	47.8	45.5
Female	54.9	54.1	52.2	54.5
Under age 25	71.0	70.6	72.0	71.0
25 years of age or older	29.0	29.4	28.0	29.0
Withdrew from one course	57.6	59.9	63.3	64.7
Withdrew from more than one course but still enrolled at Harper	7.1	7.5	6.0	7.2
Completely withdrew from Harper, but plan to return to Harper	22.2	19.9	15.3	15.0
Completely withdrew from Harper, but not sure will return to Harper	3.5	5.2	5.0	2.9
Completely withdrew from Harper and have no plans to return	9.6	7.5	10.4	10.1
Consulted a counselor this semester	18.1	17.1	13.2	13.3
Consulted a counselor past semesters	31.1	32.1	33.4	33.5
Never consulted a counselor	50.8	50.8	53.4	53.2
Registered by telephone	32.2	30.0	33.8	37.4
Registered in person	67.8	70.0	66.2	62.6
Number of responses	570	368	985	619

Institutional Totals				
FTE registering by telephone	39.6	40.0	41.1	36.8
FTE registering in person	60.4	60.0	58.9	63.2

Student Withdrawal Information -- Fall

Reason for Withdrawal	Total Percentages 1986	1987	1988	1989
Personal, family or illness problems	14.3	13.1	13.9	14.3
Load became too heavy	10.8	9.5	11.5	10.4
Was inadequately prepared for course	6.6	4.8	5.7	4.9
Course objectives did not relate to student's needs	9.4	6.1	9.7	9.7
Job pressures or was offered new job	12.0	11.1	11.3	12.8
Times course met proved to be inconvenient	8.5	10.4	11.7	12.3
Instructor was ineffective	6.9	6.6	7.1	7.8
Moving out of area	1.7	1.4	1.0	1.3
Too far behind - poor grades	17.9	17.2	14.0	13.1
Financial problems	1.1	.9	1.3	1.6
Transportation problems to Harper	1.2	.8	.6	.9
Accepted by another college	.5	.4	1.0	.5
Course demanded too much	3.0	3.3	3.7	3.6
Disliked course	5.0	5.3	5.2	5.5
Course location too inconvenient	.2	.1	.4	.2
Course was canceled	.1	0	.1	.2
Other	.8	9.0	1.8	.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of Responses	2,019	2,490	4,020	4,046

Information				
Male	51.6	50.5	47.9	48.4
Female	48.4	49.5	52.1	51.6
Under age 25	79.2	78.6	73.7	71.8
25 years of age or older	20.8	21.4	26.3	28.2
Withdrew from one course	69.7	71.0	71.0	68.3
Withdrew from more than 1 course, but still enrolled at Harper	12.0	11.5	11.7	11.7
Completely withdrew from Harper, but plan to return to Harper	{	13.1	12.4	15.3
Completely withdrew from Harper, not sure will return to Harper	{18.2	1.7	2.4	1.9
Completely withdrew from Harper with no plans to return	{	2.7	2.5	2.7
Consulted counselor this semester	29.4	32.6	30.8	29.7
Consulted counselor past semesters	23.6	24.4	24.9	26.1
Never consulted a counselor	47.0	43.0	44.3	44.2
Registered by telephone	18.1	19.8	26.4	27.2
Registered in person	81.9	80.2	73.6	72.8
Number of Responses	2,036	2,755	4,075	4,090

Institutional Totals				
FTE registering by telephone	27.1	28.3	40.6	33.1
FTE registering in person	72.9	71.7	59.4	66.9

Student Withdrawal Information -- Spring

Reason for Withdrawal	Total Percentages 1987	1988	1989	1990
Too far behind/poor grades	18.4	14.7	15.2	15.6
Personal, family or illness problems	14.8	14.0	15.1	14.9
Job pressures or was offered new job	10.1	13.0	10.0	12.8
Load became too heavy	9.3	10.0	10.1	9.4
Time course met proved inconvenient	9.7	11.2	12.2	11.1
Course objectives did not relate to student's needs	8.2	9.2	9.3	8.5
Instructor was ineffective	8.6	7.0	7.4	8.5
Inadequately prepared for course	5.9	5.9	5.8	5.5
Disliked course	5.7	5.3	5.8	5.2
Course demanded too much	4.4	3.9	3.7	4.2
Financial problems	1.0	1.7	1.2	1.1
Moved out of area	1.7	1.4	1.1	1.2
Transferred to another college	.6	.5	.6	.6
Transportation problems	.9	1.3	.8	1.0
Course location proved inconvenient	.1	.4	.3	.2
No text available	0	.1	.2	.1
Tested out of course	.1	.1	.2	.1
Registration error	.1	.1	.1	0
Military	.1	0	0	0
Misplaced by counselor	0	0	0	0
Wanted to audit course	0	0	0	0
Inadequate equipment/facilities	0	0	0	0
No tutoring available	0	0	0	0
Did not like college	0	0	0	0
Course was canceled	.2	.1	.3	.1
Class size too large	.1	.1	.1	0
Other	0	0	3.9	0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of Responses	2,271	2,831	3,192	2,792
Information				
Male	54.5	53.2	50.9	49.8
Female	45.5	46.8	49.1	50.2
Under age 25	79.4	75.4	77.0	73.0
25 years of age or older	20.6	24.6	23.0	27.0
Withdrew from one course	70.0	70.9	70.7	72.4
Withdrew from more than one course, but still enrolled at Harper	12.8	12.1	12.3	11.5
Completely withdrew from Harper, but plan to return to Harper	12.4	12.4	12.2	11.7
Completely withdrew from Harper/ not sure will return to Harper	2.0	1.8	2.1	1.8
Completely withdrew from Harper/ have no plans to return	2.8	2.8	2.6	2.5
Consulted a counselor this semester	25.2	22.4	23.6	23.1
Consulted a counselor past semesters	30.7	36.4	36.9	35.5
Never consulted a counselor	44.1	41.2	39.5	41.4
Registered by telephone	15.9	23.8	22.8	27.0
Registered in person	84.1	76.2	77.2	73.0
Number of Responses	2,300	2,856	3,243	2,854
Institutional Totals				
FTE registering by telephone	21.3	28.4	28.8	26.4
FTE registering in person	78.7	71.6	71.2	73.6

Student Withdrawal Information by Type of Withdrawal -- Summer 1988

Information	Students withdrawing from only one course		Student withdrawing from more than one course		Students withdrawing from the College completely	
	N	PCT	N	PCT	N	PCT
Male	294	48.3	18	32.1	147	49.8
Female	315	51.7	38	67.9	148	50.2
Under age 25	432	71.6	42	73.7	212	72.6
25 years of age or older	171	28.4	15	26.3	80	27.4
Consulted a counselor this semester	89	15.1	7.5	13.6	27	9.5
Consulted a counselor past semesters	229	38.9	22.5	40.9	59	20.8
Never consulted a counselor	270	45.9	25	45.5	197	69.6
Registered by telephone	168	28.3	15	27.3	132	46.0
Registered in person	425	71.7	40	72.7	155	54.0

Institutional Goals	Total FTE	Percent
FTE Registered by Telephone	876.8	41.1
FTE Registered in Person	1,258.4	58.9
Total	1,235.2	100.0

Student Withdrawal Information by Type of Withdrawal - Summer 1988

Reason for Withdrawal	Total N	Total PCT	Students withdrawing from only one course N	Students withdrawing from only one course PCT	Students withdrawing from more than one course N	Students withdrawing from more than one course PCT	Students withdrawing from College completely N	Students withdrawing from College completely PCT
Personal, family and illness problems	146.1	15.2	85.5	14.3	15.8	27.8	44.8	15.4
Too far behind/poor grades	83.7	8.7	55.5	9.2	5.6	9.8	21.7	7.4
Job pressures/offer of new job	142.9	14.9	83.9	14.0	9.8	17.3	46.7	16.0
Times course met too inconvenient	161.2	16.8	98.4	16.4	5.7	9.9	52.1	17.9
Carrying too heavy of a course load	89.5	9.3	81.2	13.5	3.8	6.6	4.5	1.6
Course objectives not related to needs	69.6	7.3	41.4	6.9	3.5	6.1	22.7	7.8
Instructor ineffective	40.7	4.2	26.4	4.4	1.8	3.2	10.9	3.8
Inadequately prepared for course	50.1	5.2	34.1	5.7	.3	.6	15.6	5.4
Disliked course	30.1	3.1	17.1	2.9	.6	1.0	12.4	4.3
Course too demanding	80.5	8.4	50.6	8.4	3.8	6.6	26.2	9.0
Financial problems	10.0	1.0	5.0	.8	.5	.9	4.5	1.5
Moved out of area	11.3	1.2	2.0	.3	1.0	1.8	8.3	2.9
Transferred to another college	6.7	.7	2.3	.4	0	0	4.3	1.5
Transportation problems	11.2	1.2	2.7	.5	2.5	4.4	6.0	2.1
Course location inconvenient	3.6	.4	2.5	.4	.3	.6	.8	.3
Course canceled	1.0	.1	0	0	0	0	1.0	.3
Other	21.6	2.2	11.1	1.8	2.0	3.5	8.5	2.9
Total	960	100.0	600	100.0	57	100.0	291	100.0

Student Withdrawal Information by Age of Student -- Summer 1988

Information	Under 25 Years Old N	Under 25 Years Old PCT	25 years old or Older N	25 years old or Older PCT	Age Unknown N	Age Unknown PCT
Male	356	51.4	100	37.5	9	75.0
Female	337	48.6	167	62.5	3	25.0
Consulted a counselor this semester	81.5	12.1	39	15.4	3	30.0
Consulted a counselor in past semesters	238.5	35.4	71	28.1	3	30.0
Never consulted a counselor	353	52.5	143	56.5	4	40.0
Registered by telephone	224.5	33.2	93.5	36.1	2	16.7
Registered in person	451.5	66.8	165.5	63.9	10	83.3

Student Withdrawal Information by Age of Student - Summer 1988

Reason for Withdrawal	Total		Under 25 Years Old		25 years old or older		Age Unknown	
	N	PCT	N	PCT	N	PCT	N	PCT
Personal, family, illness problems	146.1	15.2	79.3	11.5	64.9	24.6	2.0	16.7
Too far behind/poor grades	83.7	8.7	66.5	9.7	15.3	5.8	2.0	16.7
Job pressures/offer of new job	142.9	14.9	96.5	14.1	44.9	17.0	1.5	12.5
Times course met too inconvenient	161.2	16.8	120.5	17.6	38.2	14.5	2.5	20.8
Carrying too heavy a course load	89.5	9.3	65.0	9.5	23.5	8.9	1.0	8.3
Course objectives not related to needs	69.6	7.3	54.9	8.0	14.7	5.6	0	0
Instructor ineffective	40.7	4.2	30.1	4.4	10.6	4.0	0	0
Inadequately prepared for course	50.1	5.2	35.7	5.2	13.4	5.1	1.0	8.3
Disliked course	30.1	3.1	27.7	4.1	2.1	.8	0	0
Course too demanding	80.5	8.4	59.4	8.7	21.2	8.1	0	0
Financial problems	10.0	1.0	6.5	1.0	3.5	1.3	0	0
Moved out of area	11.3	1.2	8.8	1.3	1.5	.6	1.0	8.3
Transferred to another college	6.7	.7	5.3	.8	1.3	.5	0	0
Transporation problems	11.2	1.2	8.5	1.2	1.7	.6	1.0	8.3
Course location inconvenient	3.6	.4	3.1	.5	.5	.2	0	0
Other	21.6	2.2	16.0	2.3	5.6	2.1	0	0
Total	960	100.0	684	100.0	263.7	100.0	12.0	100.0

Student Withdrawal Information by Type of Withdrawal -- Fall 1988

	Students withdrawing from only one course		Students withdrawing from more than one course		Students withdrawing from the College completely	
Information	N	PCT	N	PCT	N	PCT
Male	1,360	47.5	237	50.4	335	48.3
Female	1,501	52.5	233	49.6	359	51.7
Under age 25	2,194	77.1	375	81.5	381	55.9
25 years or age or older	651	22.9	85	18.5	301	44.1
Consulted a counselor this semester	959.5	34.2	139.5	31.2	110.5	16.3
Consulted a counselor past semesters	693.5	24.7	129.5	29.0	159.5	23.5
Never consulted counselor	1,152	41.1	178.0	39.8	409	60.2
Registered by telephone	722.5	25.5	101.5	22.6	217.5	32.0
Registered in person	2,108.5	74.5	347.5	77.4	462.5	68.0

Institutional Totals	Total FTE	Percent
FTE registered by telephone	3181.3	40.6
FTE registered in person	4651.7	59.4
Total	7833	100.0

Student Withdrawal Information by Type of Withdrawal -- Fall 1988

Reason for Withdrawal	Total N	Total PCT	Student withdrawing from only one course N	Student withdrawing from only one course PCT	Students withdrawing from more than one course N	Students withdrawing from more than one course PCT	Students withdrawing from the College completely N	Students withdrawing from the College completely PCT
Personal, family, illness problems	559.7	13.9	261.3	9.2	107.9	23.1	183.3	26.7
Too far behind/poor grades	561.3	14.0	461.4	16.3	56.1	12.0	41.1	6.0
Job pressures/offer of new job	453.6	11.3	227.3	8.0	62.1	13.3	156.9	22.9
Times course met too inconvenient	469.1	11.7	354.6	12.5	46.3	9.9	64.7	9.4
Carrying too heavy a course load	463.2	11.5	409.1	14.4	47.2	10.1	6.9	1.0
Course objectives not related to needs	389.5	9.7	294.8	10.4	33.5	7.2	59.2	8.6
Instructor ineffective	283.6	7.1	229.8	8.1	26.0	5.6	22.7	3.3
Inadequately prepared for course	227.3	5.7	176.8	6.2	26.1	5.6	24.4	3.6
Disliked course	209.3	5.2	171.8	6.1	22.9	4.9	12.8	1.9
Course demanded too much	147.8	3.7	126.0	4.4	5.2	1.1	15.9	2.3
Financial problems	58.5	1.5	23.3	.8	10.5	2.2	24.7	3.6
Moved out of area	41.6	1.0	5.3	.2	4.0	.9	31.3	4.6
Transferred to another college	41.2	1.0	18.4	.6	4.3	.9	18.5	2.7
Transporation problems	24.3	.6	13.9	.5	4.5	1.0	5.8	.9
Course location inconvenient	14.8	.4	10.4	.4	1.7	.4	2.6	.4
Course was canceled	4.5	.1	1.0	.1	0	0	.5	.1
Other	70.4	1.8	45.7	1.6	8.5	1.8	14.8	2.2
Total	4019.8	100.0	2833.9	100.0	467	100.0	686	100.0

Student Withdrawal Information by Age of Student -- Fall 1989

Information	Under 25 years old N	Under 25 years old PCT	25 years old or older N	25 years old or older PCT	Age Unknown N	Age Unknown PCT
Male	1519	51.3	408	38.7	19	39.6
Female	1440	48.7	645	61.3	29	60.4
Consulted a counselor this semester	1024.5	35.2	184	18.3	9	25.7
Consulted a counselor past semesters	706.5	24.3	267	26.5	11	31.4
Never consulted a counselor	1181	40.6	557	55.3	15	42.9
Registered by telephone	631	21.6	409.5	39.6	14	35.9
Registered in person	2289	78.4	624.5	60.4	25	64.1

Student Withdrawal Information by Type of Withdrawal -- Spring 1989

Information	Students withdrawing from one course		Students withdrawing from more than one course		Students withdrawing from the College completely	
	N	PCT	N	PCT	N	PCT
Male	1138	50.1	224	56.7	269	49.5
Female	1133	49.9	171	43.3	274	50.5
Under age 25	1843.5	81.7	315.5	81.1	294	54.9
25 years of age or older	412.5	18.3	73.5	18.9	242	45.1
Consulted a counselor this semester	559.5	25.1	102.5	27.1	75	14.4
Consulted a counselor past semesters	840.5	37.7	156.5	41.4	157	30.2
Never consulted counselor	827	37.1	119	31.5	288	55.4
Registered by telephone	466.5	20.9	73	19.1	176.5	33.3
Registered in person	1767.5	79.1	309	80.9	353.5	66.7

Institutional Totals	Total FTE	Percent
FTE registering by telephone	2011.4	28.8
FTE registering in person	4974.6	71.2
Total	6986	100.0

Student Withdrawal Information by Type of Withdrawal -- Spring 1989

Reason for Withdrawal	Total N	Total PCT	Students withdrawing from only one course N	Students withdrawing from only one course PCT	Students withdrawing from more than one course N	Students withdrawing from more than one course PCT	Students withdrawing from the College completely N	Students withdrawing from the College completely PCT
Personal, family, illness problems	481.7	15.1	236.1	10.5	93.3	23.9	147	27.6
Too far behind/poor grades	486.1	15.2	376.4	16.7	70.8	18.1	36.5	6.9
Job pressures/offer of new job	318	10.0	138.4	6.1	52.9	13.5	125.3	23.6
Times course met too inconvenient	388.4	12.2	287.1	12.8	36	9.2	59.9	11.3
Course load too heavy	322.4	10.1	274.5	12.2	38.6	9.9	8.3	1.6
Course objectives not related to needs	297.5	9.3	235.2	10.4	29	7.4	33.3	6.3
Instructor ineffective	237	7.4	208.8	9.3	15.9	4.1	12.3	2.3
Inadequately prepared for course	185.4	5.8	148.8	6.6	13.7	3.5	22.6	4.2
Disliked course	185.9	5.8	159.5	7.1	16.2	4.2	9.8	1.8
Course too demanding	118.2	3.7	102.6	4.6	6.3	1.6	8.9	1.7
Financial problems	37.3	1.2	15.2	.7	7.7	2.0	14.1	2.6
Moved out of area	33.6	1.1	5.3	.2	1.8	.5	26.5	5.0
Transferred to another college	17.8	.6	5.8	.3	2.0	.5	10.0	1.9
Transportation problems	25.0	.8	16.8	.7	2.8	.7	5.3	1.0
Course location inconvenient	8.4	.3	4.6	.2	.3	.1	3.0	.6
Course was canceled	8.5	.3	3.5	.2	.5	.2	3.0	.6
Other	40.7	1.3	32.2	1.4	2.5	.6	6.0	1.1
Total	3192.1	100.0	2250.9	100.0	391	100.0	532	100.0

Student Withdrawal Information by Age of Student -- Spring 1989

Information	Under 25 years old N	Under 25 years old PCT	25 years old or older N	25 years old or older PCT	Age Unknown N	Age Unknown PCT
Male	1327	53.9	304	41.5	12	33.3
Female	1134	46.1	428	58.5	24	66.7
Consulted a counselor this semester	594	24.5	139	20.0	7	38.9
Consulted a counselor past semesters	964	39.8	189	27.2	5	27.8
Never consulted a counselor	867	35.8	367	52.8	6	33.3
Registered by telephone	431.5	17.8	281.5	39.6	8	42.1
Registered in person	1998.5	82.2	429.5	60.4	11	57.9
Total	2464	100.0	735	100.0	44	100.0

Student Withdrawal Information by Age of Student -- Spring 1989

Reason for Withdrawal	TOTAL N	TOTAL PCT	Under 25 N	Under 25 PCT	25 or Older N	25 or Older PCT	No Response N	No Response PCT
Personal, family, illness problems	481.7	15.1	276.8	11.4	181.9	25.2	23.0	59.0
Too far behind/poor grades	486.1	15.2	447.2	18.4	36.1	5.0	2.75	7.1
Job pressures/offer of new job	318.0	10.0	192.1	7.9	124.9	17.3	1.0	2.6
Times or course inconvenient	388.4	12.2	291.2	12.0	96.2	13.3	1.0	2.6
Course load too heavy	322.4	10.1	263.6	10.8	57.7	8.0	1.0	2.6
Course objectives not related to needs	297.5	9.3	239.4	9.8	56.2	7.8	2.0	5.1
Instructor ineffective	237.0	7.4	197.2	8.1	37.6	5.2	2.25	5.8
Inadequately prepared for course	185.4	5.8	143.1	5.9	40.3	5.6	2.0	5.1
Disliked course	185.9	5.8	174.1	7.2	10.6	1.5	1.25	3.2
Course demanded too much	118.2	3.7	93.1	3.8	24.8	3.4	.25	.6
Financial problems	37.3	1.2	28.7	1.2	8.6	1.2	0	0
Moved out of area	33.6	1.1	18.2	.7	15.5	2.1	0	0
Transferred to another college	17.8	.6	12.6	.5	5.3	.7	0	0
Transporation problems	25.0	.8	17.9	.7	5.6	.8	1.5	3.8
Course location inconvenient	8.4	.3	5.2	.2	2.0	.3	1.0	2.6
Course was canceled	8.5	.3	5.0	.2	3.5	.5	0	0
Other	40.7	1.3	26.3	1.1	14.3	2.0	0	0
Total	3192.1	100.0	2431.9	100.0	721	100.0	39	100.0

Student Withdrawal Information by Type of Withdrawal -- Summer 1989

Information	Students Withdrawing from only one course N	Students Withdrawing from only one course PCT	Students Withdrawing from more than one course N	Students Withdrawing from more than one course PCT	Students Withdrawing from the College completely N	Students Withdrawing from the College completely PCT
Male	170	42.9	22	52.4	269	49.5
Female	226	57.1	20	47.6	274	50.5
Under age 25	267	69.7	31	75.6	294	54.9
25 years of age or older	116	30.3	10	24.4	242	45.1
Consulted a counselor this semester	62	16.3	3	7.7	75	14.4
Consulted a counselor past semesters	144	37.8	18	46.2	157	30.2
Never consulted a counselor	175	45.9	18	46.2	288	55.4
Registered by telephone	133.5	35.2	14	38.9	176.5	33.3
Registered in person	245.5	64.8	22	61.1	353.5	66.7

Institutional Totals	Total FTE	Percent
FTE registering by telephone	800.6	36.8
FTE registering in person	1374.6	63.2
Total	2175.2	100.0

Student Withdrawal Information by Type of Withdrawal -- Summer 1989

Reason for Withdrawal	Total N	Total PCT	Students Withdrawing from only one course N	Students Withdrawing from only one course PCT	Students Withdrawing from more than one course N	Students Withdrawing from more than one course PCT	Students Withdrawing from the College Completely N	Students Withdrawing from the College Completely PCT
Personal, family, illness problems	105.3	17.4	55.7	14.2	16.5	39.3	31.2	18.6
Too far behind/poor grades	72.1	11.9	48.3	12.3	4.0	9.5	18.8	11.2
Job pressures/offer of new job	84.2	13.9	51.5	13.1	3.5	8.3	29.2	17.4
Times course met inconvenient	81.4	13.4	54.6	13.9	5.5	13.1	21.3	12.7
Carrying too heavy a course load	48.6	8.0	47.1	12.0	.5	1.2	1.0	.6
Course objectives not related to needs	35.5	5.8	22.3	5.7	4.5	10.7	8.8	5.2
Instructor ineffective	35.0	5.8	21.7	5.5	0	0	12.3	7.3
Inadequately prepared for course	30.2	5.0	18.4	4.7	0	0	11.7	7.0
Disliked course	24.8	4.1	19.9	5.1	1.5	3.6	3.4	2.0
Course demanded too much	39.5	6.5	26.6	6.8	1.0	2.4	11.9	7.1
Financial problems	6.5	1.1	3.0	.8	1.5	3.6	1.5	.9
Moved out of area	3.3	.5	.5	.1	.5	1.2	2.3	1.4
Transferred to another college	11.5	1.9	3.0	.8	0	0	8.5	5.1
Transportation problem	5.5	.9	4.0	1.0	0	0	1.5	.9
Course location inconvenient	3.0	.5	2.0	.5	1.0	2.4	0	0
Course was canceled	3.0	.5	1.0	.3	1.0	2.4	1.0	.6
Other	17.5	2.9	12.5	3.2	1.0	2.4	3.0	1.8
Total	607	100.0	392	100.0	42	100.0	168	100.0

Student Withdrawal Information by Age of Student -- Summer 1989

Information	Under 25 years old N	Under 25 years old PCT	25 years old or older N	25 years old or older PCT	Age Unknown N	Age Unknown PCT
Male	201	47.4	74	43.3	4	22.2
Female	223	52.6	97	56.7	14	77.8
Consulted a counselor this semester	57	13.8	22	13.0	0	0
Consulted a counselor past semesters	133	32.3	61	36.1	5	38.5
Never consulted a counselor	222	53.9	86	50.9	8	61.5
Registered by telephone	162.5	39.3	57.5	34.0	1	11.1
Registered in person	250.5	60.7	111.5	66.0	8	88.9

Student Withdrawal Information by Age of Student -- Summer 1989

Reason for Withdrawal	Total N	Total PCT	Under 25 Years old N	Under 25 Years old PCT	25 years old or older N	25 years old or older PCT	Age Unknown N	Age Unknown PCT
Personal, family, illness problem	105.3	17.4	48.3	11.6	44.0	26.0	13	61.9
Too far behind/poor grades	72.1	11.9	58.4	14.0	13.6	8.0	0	0
Job pressures/offer of a new job	84.2	13.9	53.2	12.8	29.1	17.2	2	9.5
Times of course inconvenient	81.4	13.4	63.8	15.3	16.6	9.8	1	4.8
Course load too heavy	48.6	8.0	34.5	8.3	13.1	7.7	1	4.8
Course objectives not related to needs	35.5	5.8	24.8	5.9	9.8	5.8	1	4.8
Instructor ineffective	35.0	5.8	24.7	5.9	10.3	6.1	0	0
Inadequately prepared for course	30.2	5.0	20.4	4.9	8.7	5.2	1	4.8
Disliked course	24.8	4.1	22.6	5.4	1.3	.7	1	4.8
Course demanded too much	39.5	6.5	30.4	7.3	8.1	4.8	1	4.8
Financial problems	6.5	1.1	4.5	1.1	2.0	1.2	0	0
Moved out of area	3.3	.5	2.8	.7	.5	.3	0	0
Transferred to another college	11.5	1.9	8.0	1.9	3.5	2.1	0	0
Transportation problem	5.5	.9	3.0	.7	2.5	1.5	0	0
Course location inconvenient	3.0	.5	2.0	.5	1.0	.6	0	0
Course was canceled	3.0	.5	2.0	.5	1.0	.6	0	0
Other	17.5	2.9	13.5	3.2	4.0	2.4	0	0
Total	607	100.0	417	100.0	169	100.0	21	100.0

Student Withdrawal Information by Type of Withdrawal -- Fall 1989

Information	Students Withdrawing from only one course N	Students Withdrawing from only one course PCT	Students Withdrawing from more than one course N	Students Withdrawing from more than one course PCT	Students Withdrawing from the College completely N	Students Withdrawing from the College completely PCT
Male	1316	47.6	253	53.3	392	48.6
Female	1447	52.4	222	46.7	415	51.4
Under age 25	2086	75.9	376	81.6	428	53.3
25 years of age or older	664	24.1	85	18.4	375	46.7
Consulted a counselor this semester	882	32.5	133	29.4	160	20.5
Consulted a counselor past semesters	715	26.3	136	30.0	181	23.1
Never consulted a counselor	1117	41.2	184	40.6	441	56.4
Registered by telephone	698.5	25.6	112	24.7	270	34.1
Registered in person	2033.5	74.4	342	75.3	521	65.9

Institutional Totals	Total FTE	Percent
FTE registering by telephone	2676.3	33.1
FTE registering in person	5414.7	66.9
Total	8091.0	100.0

Student Withdrawal Information by Type of Withdrawal -- Fall 1989

Reason for Withdrawal	Total N	Total PCT	Students Withdrawing from only one course N	Students Withdrawing from only one course PCT	Students Withdrawing from more than one course N	Students Withdrawing from more than one course PCT	Students Withdrawing from the College Completely N	Students Withdrawing from the College Completely PCT
Personal, family, illness problems	579.1	14.3	273.4	9.9	118.7	25.1	184.0	23.1
Too far behind/poor grades	529.7	13.1	414.5	15.0	70.2	14.9	43.2	5.4
Job pressures/offer of new job	518.2	12.8	233.6	8.5	70.2	14.9	208.9	26.2
Course time too inconvenient	498.8	12.3	350.1	12.7	54.4	11.5	88.5	11.1
Course load too heavy	420.9	10.4	367.1	13.3	41.4	8.8	12.4	1.6
Course objectives not related to needs	391.3	9.7	293.6	10.7	28.9	6.1	65.8	8.3
Instructor ineffective	314.4	7.8	275.7	10.0	14.9	3.1	22.7	2.9
Inadequately prepared for course	196.9	4.9	147.9	5.4	15.5	3.3	33.1	4.2
Disliked course	222.4	5.5	183.8	6.7	21.1	4.5	17.5	2.2
Course demanded too much	147.6	3.6	120.6	4.4	9.8	2.1	16.2	2.0
Financial problems	66.1	1.6	23.3	.8	14.2	3.0	27.5	3.4
Moved out of area	52.4	1.3	10.8	.4	2.5	.5	39.0	4.9
Transferred to another college	22.1	.5	4.1	.1	1.0	.2	17.0	2.1
Transportation problem	36.8	.9	19.9	.7	8.3	1.8	8.6	1.1
Course location inconvenient	9.5	.2	7.5	.3	.5	.1	1.5	.2
Course was canceled	7.2	.2	5.8	.2	0	0	.8	.1
Other	33.4	.8	22.2	.8	.3	.1	10.3	1.3
Total	4046.5	100.0	2753.9	100.0	472	100.0	797	100.0

Student Withdrawal Information by Age of Student -- Fall 1989

Information	Under 25 years old N	Under 25 years old PCT	25 years old or older N	25 years old or older PCT	Age Unknown N	Age Unknown PCT
Male	1525	52.7	428	37.7	18	40.0
Female	1366	47.3	706	62.3	27	60.0
Consulted a counselor this semester	963	33.9	205	18.7	11	37.9
Consulted a counselor past semesters	742	26.1	287	26.2	6	20.7
Never consulted a counselor	1136	40.0	605	55.2	12	41.4
Registered by telephone	599	21.0	481.5	43.2	8	27.6
Registered in person	2258	79.0	632.5	56.8	21	72.4

Student Withdrawal Information by Age of Student -- Fall 1989

	Total		Under 25 years old		25 years old or older		Age Unknown	
Reason for Withdrawal	N	PCT	N	PCT	N	PCT	N	PCT
Personal, family, illness problems	579.1	14.3	293.6	10.2	263.0	23.5	22.5	45.0
Too far behind/poor grades	529.7	13.1	482.8	16.8	41.5	3.7	5.3	10.7
Job pressures/offer of new job	518.2	12.8	269.1	9.4	246.3	22.0	2.8	5.7
Time of course inconvenient	498.8	12.3	361.8	12.6	131.5	11.7	5.5	11.0
Course load too heavy	420.9	10.4	316.4	11.0	101.9	9.1	2.5	5.0
Course objectives not related to needs	391.3	9.7	308.9	10.7	77.9	7.0	3.8	7.5
Instructor ineffective	314.4	7.8	242.9	8.5	70.5	6.3	1.0	2.0
Inadequately prepared for course	196.9	4.9	142.0	4.9	52.3	4.7	2.6	5.2
Disliked course	222.4	5.5	194.4	6.8	25.2	2.2	2.8	5.5
Course demanded too much	147.6	3.6	104.3	3.6	43.3	3.9	0	0
Financial problems	66.1	1.6	52.6	1.8	12.5	1.1	1.0	2.0
Moved out of area	52.4	1.3	33.0	1.1	19.3	1.7	0	0
Transferred to another college	22.1	.5	17.8	.6	4.0	.4	.3	.5
Transportation problems	36.8	.9	26.9	.9	9.8	.9	0	0
Course location proved inconvenient	9.5	.2	7.5	.3	2.0	.2	0	0
Course was canceled	7.2	.2	3.6	.1	3.5	.3	0	0
Other	33.4	.8	16.4	.6	16.3	1.5	0	0
Total	4046.5	100.0	287.4	100.0	1121.0	100.0	50.0	100.0

Student Withdrawal Information by Type of Withdrawal -- Spring 1990

	Students Withdrawing from only one course		Students Withdrawing from more than one course		Students Withdrawing from the College Completely	
Information	N	PCT	N	PCT	N	PCT
Male	1011	49.4	179	54.9	217	47.8
Female	1035	50.6	147	45.1	237	52.2
Under age 25	1548	76.2	264	82.8	239	53.0
25 years of age or older	483	23.8	55	17.2	212	47.0
Consulted a counselor this semester	480	23.9	94	30.5	67	15.1
Consulted a counselor past semesters	736	36.6	106	34.4	139	31.3
Never consulted a counselor	795	39.5	108	35.1	238	53.6
Registered by telephone	529.5	26.3	56	18.4	158	35.3
Registered in person	1487	73.7	249	81.6	290	64.7

Institutional Totals	Total FTE	Percent
FTE registering by telephone	1980.6	26.4
FTE registering in person	5513.4	73.6
Total	7494.0	100.0

Student Withdrawal Information by Type of Withdrawal -- Spring 1990

Reason for Withdrawal	Total N	Total PCT	Students Withdrawing from only one course N	Students Withdrawing from only one course PCT	Students Withdrawing from more than one course N	Students Withdrawing from more than one course PCT	Students Withdrawing from the College completely N	Students Withdrawing from the College completely PCT
Personal, family, illness problems	415.1	14.9	217.8	10.8	79.0	24.5	113.4	25.7
Too far behind/poor grades	435.0	15.6	340.6	16.9	56.9	17.6	37.5	8.5
Job pressures/offer of new job	356.3	12.8	204.5	10.2	41.4	12.8	107.9	24.4
Course times inconvenient	309.3	11.1	231.5	11.5	38.8	12.0	37.5	8.5
Course load too heavy	263.2	9.4	238.8	11.9	16.8	5.2	7.5	1.7
Course objectives not related to needs	238.6	8.5	188.8	9.4	24.3	7.5	22.5	5.1
Instructor ineffective	238.5	8.5	202.5	10.1	21.9	6.8	14.1	3.2
Inadequately prepared for course	152.9	5.5	131.1	6.5	9.7	3.0	12.0	2.7
Disliked course	144.3	5.2	112.3	5.6	19.8	6.1	11.8	2.7
Course demanded too much	117.8	4.2	98.2	4.9	4.3	1.3	13.3	3.0
Financial problems	31.1	1.1	7.8	.4	4.8	1.5	18.4	4.2
Moved out of area	34.7	1.2	5.8	.3	1.0	.3	27.8	6.3
Transferred to another college	16.3	.6	8.8	.4	1.0	.3	6.5	1.5
Transportation problems	26.9	1.0	14.9	.7	2.9	.9	8.5	1.9
Course location inconvenient	5.4	.2	2.8	.1	.3	.1	2.2	.5
Course canceled	2.0	.1	1.0	.1	0	0	1.0	.2
Other	4.5	.2	4.5	.2	0	0	0	0
Total	2792	100.0	2012	100.0	322.9	100.0	456	100.0

Student Withdrawal Information by Age of Student -- Spring 1990

Information	Under 25 years old N	Under 25 years old PCT	25 years old or older N	25 years old or older PCT	Age Unknown N	Age Unknown PCT
Male	1078	52.5	323	42.7	13	39.4
Female	974	47.5	433	57.3	20	60.6
Consulted a counselor this semester	501	24.7	135	18.6	5	21.7
Consulted a counselor past semesters	756	37.3	219	30.1	9	39.1
Never consulted a counselor	768	37.9	373	51.3	9	39.1
Registered by telephone	419	20.7	326.5	44.2	5	23.8
Registered in person	1603	79.3	412.5	55.8	16	76.2

Student Withdrawal Information by Age of Student -- Spring 1990

Reason for Withdrawal	Total		Under 25 years old		25 years old or older		Age Unknown	
	N	PCT	N	PCT	N	PCT	N	PCT
Personal, family, illness problems	415.1	14.9	224.4	11.2	169.7	23.0	21	52.5
Too far behind/poor grades	435.0	15.6	390.6	19.4	41.4	5.6	3	7.5
Job pressures/offer of new job	356.3	12.8	191.4	9.5	162.9	22.0	2	5.0
Course times inconvenient	309.3	11.1	224.1	11.1	81.2	11.0	4	10.0
Course load too heavy	263.2	9.4	205.7	10.2	57.5	7.8	0	0
Course objectives not related to needs	238.6	8.5	183.6	9.1	53.0	7.2	2	5.0
Instructor ineffective	238.5	8.5	193.7	9.6	42.9	5.8	2	5.0
Inadequately prepared for course	152.9	5.5	121.9	6.1	31.0	4.2	0	0
Disliked course	144.3	5.2	119.2	5.9	20.1	2.7	5	12.5
Course demanded too much	117.8	4.2	76.4	3.8	41.4	5.6	0	0
Financial problems	31.1	1.1	22.7	1.1	8.4	1.1	0	0
Moved out of area	34.7	1.2	18.2	.9	16.5	2.2	0	0
Transferred to another college	16.3	.6	13.3	.7	3.0	.4	0	0
Transportation problems	26.9	1.0	19.8	1.0	6.0	.8	1	2.5
Course location inconvenient	5.4	.2	4.2	.2	1.2	.2	0	0
Course was canceled	2.0	.1	1.0	.1	1.0	.1	0	0
Other	4.5	.2	2.5	.1	2.0	.3	0	0
Total	2792	100.0	2013	100.0	739.1	100.0	40	100.0

During the period covered in this report the following are favorable comments about specific instructors provided by students withdrawing from classes. The names are spelled the way the students wrote them.

- Mrs. Karen Froelich is an excellent teacher. She has a true gift for teaching and making a student understand mathematical concepts. Her course was excellent.
- Bob Spotak was a very good teacher.
- Teacher (Bob Spotak) was good, but I had no interest in class.
- Loved this course! Mrs. Braun is a wonderful instructor!
- Mr. Walker made the class very interesting.
- Mr. Walker, the instructor, is an excellent teacher and I enjoyed the course while I was able to attend.
- I had several good teachers, especially Mrs. Froelich and Dr. Callen.
- Class was fine - Mr. Pariconi was an excellent instructor - I just needed more time for my job.
- The teacher of anatomy was excellent. I would recommend Mr. Holdaway to anyone interested in learning anatomy as opposed to just getting through a course.
- I really enjoyed Dr. Tillotson as a teacher and will probably complete the course anyway.
- I feel Mrs. Cooper is an excellent teacher and therefore I will take her next semester.
- Due to job pressures of my current job I am unable to take this course at this time. Dr. Wilcox is an excellent instructor and I would like to take this course at a later date.
- I really liked the instructor, Dr. Morton, but my work left me with too little time to prepare.
- Dr. J. Stone is an excellent teacher but the class was just too impossible for me to understand.
- Professor Cohen was a very efficient instructor and good, but I was having a hard time in the class.
- Professor Arnesen is a fantastic instructor!
- I liked Mr. Perricone a lot - the subject was just too difficult to comprehend for me.
- Ms. Keres is an excellent professional educator.
- Instructor Mrs. Barnett was very good in what she does.
- Teacher (Peggy Maas) patient and conscientious.
- Vera Davis was an wonderful professor - I would have enjoyed finishing the course and MOA program here.
- Mr. Heed was an excellent instructor, but I just could not work out the class with other classes and work. The course demanded too much.
- Just wish to add - Dr. Slater is a good instructor.
- My instructor, Judy Kaplow, is an excellent teacher and it will be a sad day for Harper and its students when and if she leaves.
- Excellent instructor - will try to get Mrs. Theil again.
- P.S. - Ms. Baumgartner is terrific.
- Dr. Stone is a fantastic teacher. Hopefully, I will be able to appreciate it later on.
- The College has excellent teachers. Mr. Frank Smith (ENG-101) and Ms. Njus (LIT-115) are exceptionally good.
- The teacher was wonderful - Dr. Newhonser.
- I had Judy Caplowe and I would like to have her next semester when I try it again. She's great!
- Mr. Roscoe Rush is an excellent instructor and in no way is a reflection on my poor grade. I would hope to repeat the course under his direction - (ECO-200).
- Teacher - Mrs. Frolik - was excellent - my withdrawal is all personal.
- I though my teacher for PSY-225, Mr. Parker, is a wonderful teacher. Probably one of the best teachers I had at Harper.
- The instructors for both my English classes are great (Kent and Kaplow).
- The teacher, Mr. Gephart, is the best teacher I have had at Harper. He explains the material very well.

During the period covered in this report, the following are 36 of 211 unfavorable comments about teachers or teaching methods provided by the 15,806 student withdrawal surveys received from students withdrawing from classes. No attempt was made to determine the accuracy of the statements, but the 36 selected comments are included only to provide a flavor of the negative comments provided at the time of student withdrawal. The other comments are either similar to those listed or statements like "I don't like the teacher". Any comparison between the number of negative statements to the positive comments about specific instructors should not be made. The comments are typed the way the students expressed them. The teachers names were withheld when given.

- I do not think that a point by point in class review of workbook questions constitutes effective teaching, nor is it worth my time and effort. After my first two experiences, I would never return to Harper College.
- I thought this course was for basic communication. This was supposed to teach me Spanish at a beginners level. I am dropping because it's going too fast and too high of speed. This class is for someone that knows some Spanish.
- Very disappointed with instructor's ability to present material. Courses not offered at another time. Have taken other courses from Harper, but not sure if I will in the future. Concerns me as a taxpayer of the district if this is what our money is going to. Professor is a nice person, but not a teacher!
- Teacher was very ineffective in her methods of teaching. She was not clear with directions or expectations.
- The main reason I dropped the class was due to the teachers teaching style. The teacher lacked patience with questions from the students. She would get upset and raise her voice if we did not know the complete solutions to problems. In grading she expected too much detail in the work to get the solutions.
- Teacher did not help students - it was a tough class and help was needed, but not received. Class got out an hour early every time. The teacher never went to computer lab with the class to help work on programs. The class was a free for all. You were by yourself and had to do everything yourself.
- While I do not expect special treatment from any instructor, I do expect to be spoken to and treated as an adult. It appears that this teacher has developed an over valued ego which apparently allows her to transcend common courtesy when speaking to others. I find her pompous manner rather offensive, and find myself with strong feelings of disrespect with regards to her hasty and condescending attitude.
- Myself and other students were quite disappointed with the teacher of this class. He is very vague and he speaks over our heads which resulted in us doing poorly. He needs to teach us - not expect us to already know the material.
- I felt that the teacher was going way too fast for an 099 class. The people in this class are not CPA's which I was under the impression he thought we were. This was my second time trying and I did not know what I did learn, what I was supposed to have learned. I think an 099 course should allow for a little more time since most of the students have not had accounting before.
- The instructor did not seem fair in his hurry to fit too much information in the end of the class leaving the class to go on longer than class should be -- He needs to schedule his time better.
- The teacher is not prepared with handouts and never references area where students can locate information. Is very quick with the view graphs, not allowing time to write notes. Whenever students ask a question he never seems to give an answer. One time I asked him how to do something and he showed me on paper the logic - well this did not work. The next class I asked what I was doing wrong -- he said why are you doing it this way? I told him because "Look at the notes, you showed me to do it this way". He says, "Well, you must be doing this wrong". But, he wouldn't teach me or point me in the proper direction. This man is a very cruel man. He is not a teacher - he does not respect students. He plays the "I am the boss" role.
- The professor talked too generally, and was not sure of himself on occasion. He confused me by correcting himself at least two times in a class period.

Comments (continued)

- I feel the instructor in this class is very poor with basics. I don't feel I'm getting anything out of the course. She says she isn't our private tutor, she is not a babysitter, she can't walk us through each step. She feels it's not her responsibility to fill us in on any missed assignments - we're supposed to get them through the "buddy system".
- The instructor I had was incompetent, rude, unknowledgeable, unprofessional and a disgrace to the teaching profession. I am an honors student and I have never been so disgusted with an instructor.
- The instructor gets made if questions are asked. If I should not be asking questions or something, instructor just zooms through material as if we know it as well as he does.
- Instructors attitude was terrible, language he used was incomprehensible - assumed we were professors.
- The teacher was extremely poor. I really wanted to learn accounting but his lectures did not relate with the quizzes or projects at all.
- Course poorly taught (ELT-203) - disorganized teaching, course book nearly useless - probably a major factor. No syllabus of topics to be covered - unable to read ahead, midterm continuously delayed - unable to be certain of topics till two days ahead.
- The instructor was an adequate information source yet lacked ability to relay his knowledge in an interesting way.
- The teacher as I see it is prejudiced against minorities, including women. If you were not in agreement with his ideas you were wrong.
- I feel this teacher was very unfair, opinionated, prejudiced, and very cold-hearted! I never worked so hard and did so bad - it was a total waste of time and money.
- I was having conflict with teacher and difficulty with assignments due to conflict.
- Teacher was not responsive to class as a whole. Many students I talked with were in there for the second time. Still some dropped. The week before spring break he said "It's amazing the amount of D's and F's in this class". Yet he did not change his teaching behavior for the better of the class. When I spoke with him about my grade and the possibility of dropping it, he didn't seem to care.
- I don't feel this teacher explains the course work. He spends a lot of time talking about personal achievements to make himself out to be a "hero". Course is ACC-102.
- The teacher was very rude and proud of it!
- She did nothing with the students. They were generally obnoxious and disrupting the class and she did nothing. People in the class got up and left all the time to go to the tutoring center to get help.
- Someone should check into the way that he teaches his course. Class should be from 6:25 to 9:05 p.m. His "busy schedule" let us off at 7:30 p.m. many a time! If I'm paying $90 for this class, the teacher should be there.
- The teacher was not a very good teacher. She was cutting down my character and it didn't need to be cut down. She should have been cutting down by work, not my character.
- He is the worst instructor I have ever come across during my years of education. I believe he knows what he is trying to teach - he just does not know how to do it and that is a problem. If Harper College wants to keep its reputation as a "top-notch" college then it had better get its act together. Do something about inadequate instructors like him before it is too late.
- As a student going to school at night I have had many instructors that I feel are not qualified to be teaching. This is the fourth night instructor I have had that I feel has been unqualified.
- The teacher is extremely impatient and on an ego trip. She cannot handle an adult student who knows her own mind - capabilities and scheduling problems. She would rather be flattered than see end results with a student.

Comments (continued)

- I did not feel the teacher was effective or professional. I don't enjoy being treated like a grade school kid - very disappointing.
- I felt the instructor is a bad influence on his students. For the weeks I was there his main objective was talking about sex, drugs, and he wanted us to all experience a "high" which I thought was totally out of line.
- Teacher of the course was inept at any kind of communications to the class and as a result half of the class was failing at the time of drop. Instead of trying to improve the classes study habits he bad mouthed the class saying how no one studied, etc.
- If you cannot ask a question without being embarrassed or intimidated, then what is the purpose of higher education? I have always been told by other Harper instructors to ask questions, even he said we could ask questions. I followed his advice and was accused of not paying attention and yelled at in public in front of the entire class. Today while I was in lab I needed desperately to ask a question and was afraid to ask.
- Disappointed that the night staff is lacking in "teaching abilities" and techniques.

APPENDIX

- Survey Instrument

STUDENT WITHDRAWAL INFORMATION

1- Term: Fall _____ Spring _____ Summer _____

2- Date: _____

3- Social Security Number: _____

4- Sex: _____ Male _____ Female

5- Age: _____ Under 25 _____ 25 or Older

6- What is your withdrawal status? Check (✓) one:

_____ A. Withdrawing from one course but still enrolled at Harper.

_____ B. Withdrawing from more than one course but still enrolled at Harper.

_____ C. Completely withdrawing from Harper College.

If "C", do you plan to return to Harper College? _____ Yes _____ No

7- When did you see a counselor? Check (✓) one:

_____ A. This semester

_____ B. Past semesters

_____ C. Never saw a counselor

8- What is the principal reason you withdrew from this course(s) or from Harper College? Check (✓) the ONE principal reason:

_____ A. The course objectives did not relate to my needs.
_____ B. The times the course met proved to be too inconvenient.
_____ C. The instructor(s) were ineffective.
_____ D. Personal, family and illness problems.
_____ E. Job pressures or I was offered a new job.
_____ F. I am moving out of the area.
_____ G. I was inadequately prepared for the course.
_____ H. Transportation problems getting to Harper.
_____ I. Financial problems.
_____ J. Was carrying too heavy of a course load.
_____ K. Was accepted for transfer to another college.
_____ L. Course(s) was cancelled.
_____ M. Course location was too inconvenient.
_____ N. Too far behind or poor grades.
_____ O. Course demanded too much.
_____ P. Disliked Course.
_____ Q. Other (Specify) _____

_____

9- How did you register?

_____ A. By telephone

_____ B. In person

10- General Comments: _____

_____

_____

_____

Operational Staff:

Secretary: Janice A. Cook
Data Entry and Tabulation: Cal Meltesen

William Rainey Harper College
1200 West Algonquin Road
Palatine, Illinois 60067-7398
708/397-3000

ERIC Clearinghouse for
Junior Colleges

MAR 8 1991